

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): A process for producing a scratch-resistant coating, said process comprising:

applying at least one UV-curable coating composition to at least one surface of an article to be coated, said coating composition comprising at least one polymer and/or oligomer P1 containing an average of at least one ethylenically unsaturated double bond per molecule, and

curing said coating composition by exposure to UV radiation under an oxygen-containing protective gas which has an oxygen partial pressure in the range of from [[0.2]] 0.5 to 18 kPa.

Claim 2 (Previously Presented): The process as claimed in claim 1, wherein the polymer and/or oligomer P1 has a double bond content in the range of from 0.01 to 1 mol/100 g of P1.

Claim 3 (Previously Presented): The process as claimed in claim 1, wherein a number-average molecular weight of P1 is in the range of from 400 to 10,000 daltons.

Claim 4 (Previously Presented): The process as claimed in claim 1, wherein the ethylenic double bonds in P1 are in the form of acrylate, methacrylate, acrylamido or methacrylamido groups.

Claim 5 (Previously Presented): The process as claimed in claim 4, wherein P1 is selected from the group consisting of urethane (meth)acrylates, polyester (meth)acrylates, oligoether (meth)acrylates and epoxy (meth)acrylates.

Claim 6 (Previously Presented): The process as claimed in claim 1, wherein the UV-curable coating composition further comprises one or more reactive diluents.

Claim 7 (Previously Presented): The process as claimed in claim 6, wherein the reactive diluent is selected from the group consisting of compounds having one or two acrylate groups, compounds having one or two methacrylate groups and mixtures thereof.

Claim 8 (Previously Presented): The process as claimed in claim 1, wherein the article to be coated is a three-dimensional structure.

Claim 9 (Previously Presented): The process as claimed in claim 1, wherein a region of an installation in which the coating is cured by exposure to UV radiation is flushed with a protective gas.

Claim 10 (New): The process as claimed in claim 1, wherein the oxygen partial pressure is in the range of from 0.5 to 17 kPa.

Claim 11 (New): The process as claimed in claim 1, wherein the oxygen partial pressure is in the range of from 0.5 to 15.3 kPa.

Claim 12 (New): The process as claimed in claim 1, wherein the oxygen partial pressure is in the range of from 0.5 to 13.5 kPa.

Claim 13 (New): The process as claimed in claim 1, wherein the oxygen partial pressure is in the range of from 0.5 to 10 kPa.

Claim 14 (New): The process as claimed in claim 1, wherein the oxygen partial pressure is in the range of from 0.5 to 6.3 kPa.

Claim 15 (New): The process as claimed in claim 1, wherein the oxygen partial pressure is in the range of from 0.9 to 6.3 kPa.

Claim 16 (New): The process as claimed in claim 1, wherein the oxygen partial pressure is in the range of from 1.8 to 6.3 kPa.

Claim 17 (New): The process as claimed in claim 1, wherein the oxygen partial pressure is in the range of from 2.5 to 6.3 kPa.